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(54) Teichomycin A₂ pure single
factors 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 and method
for their production

(57) Antibiotic Teichomycin A₂,
produced by aerobic cultivation of

Actinoplanes teichomyceticus ATCC
31121, is separated into its
components Factors 1 to 5 by reverse
phase partition or ion exchange
chromatography. The Factors 1 to 5
may be converted into their acid- or
base-addition salts.

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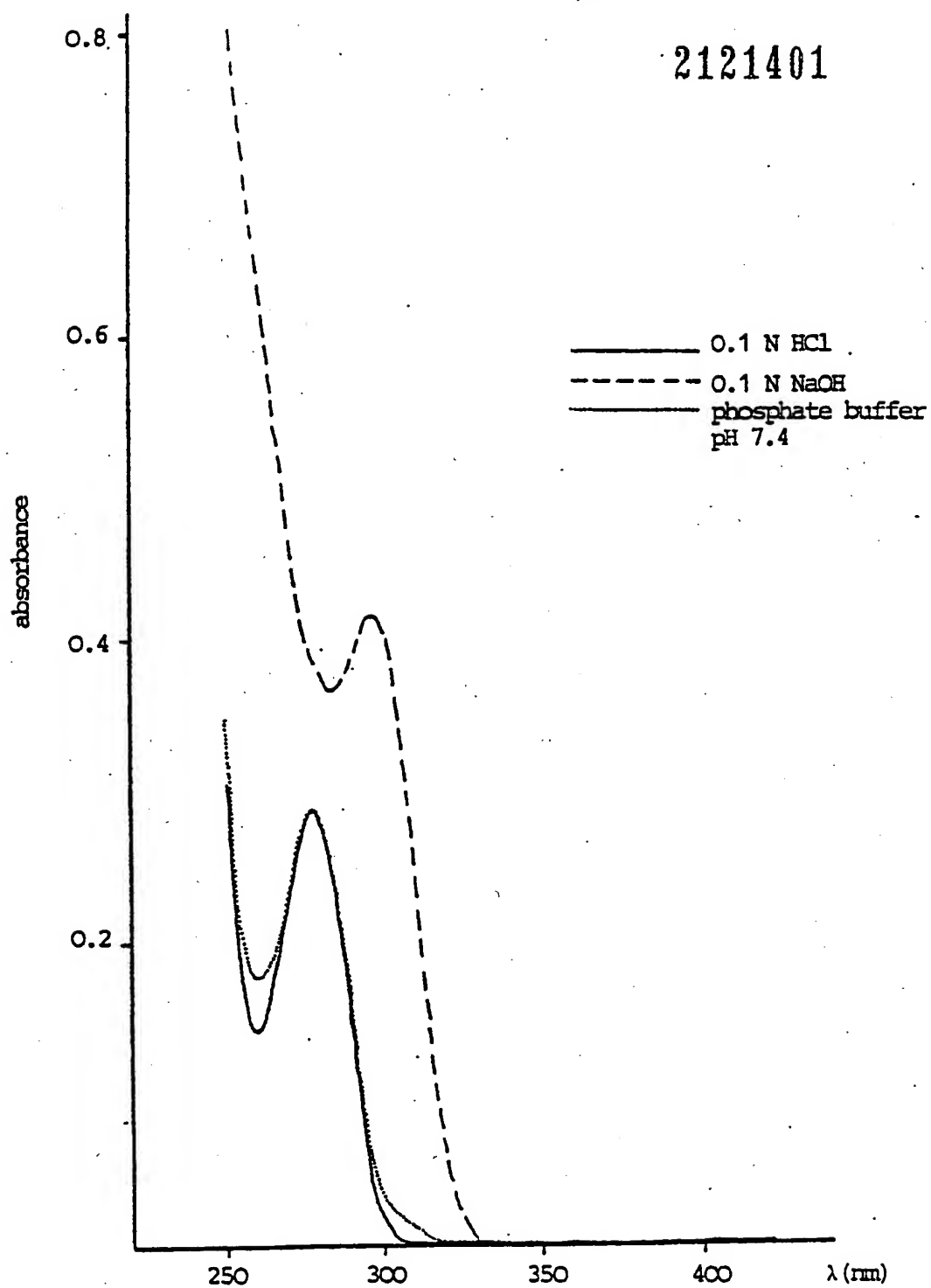


Fig. 1

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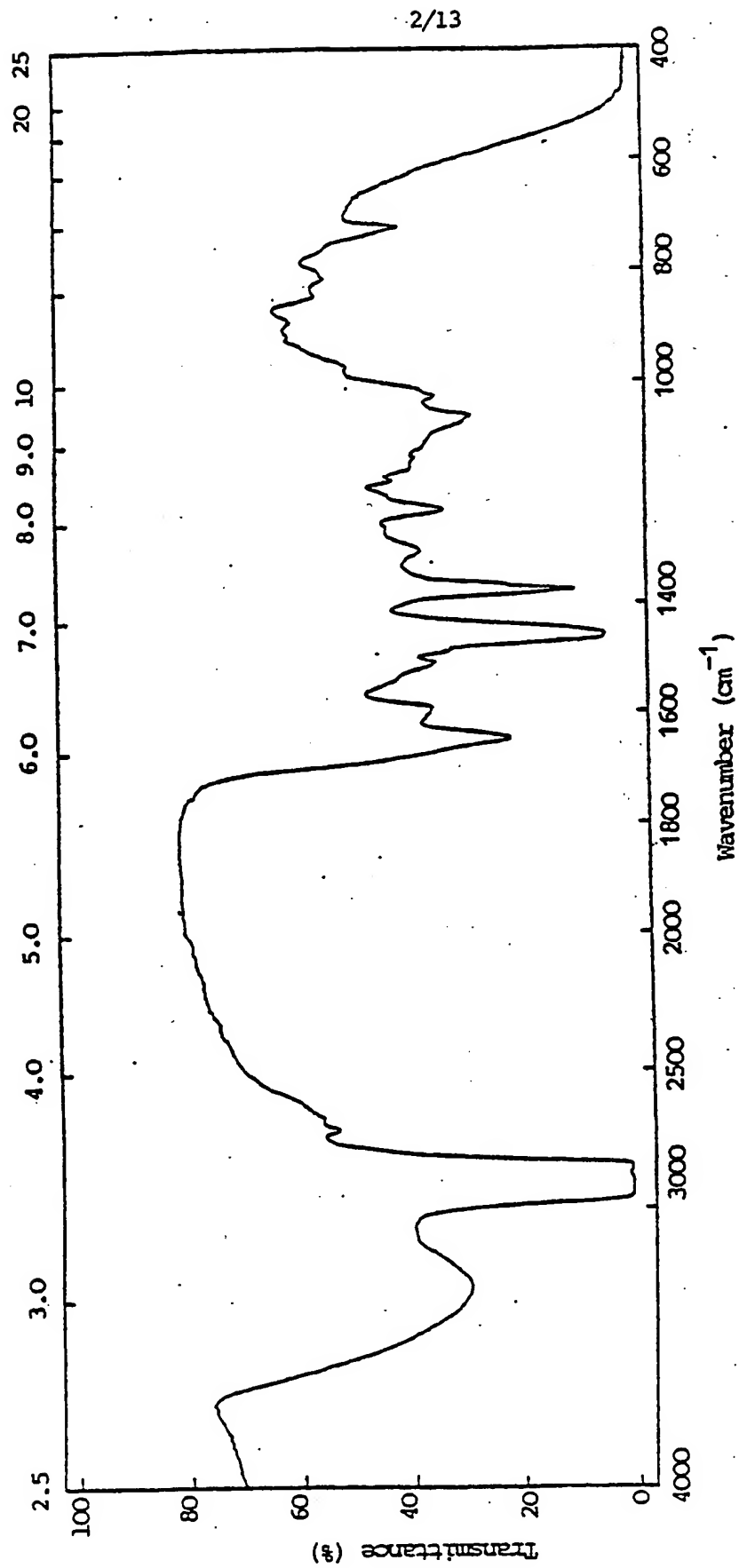
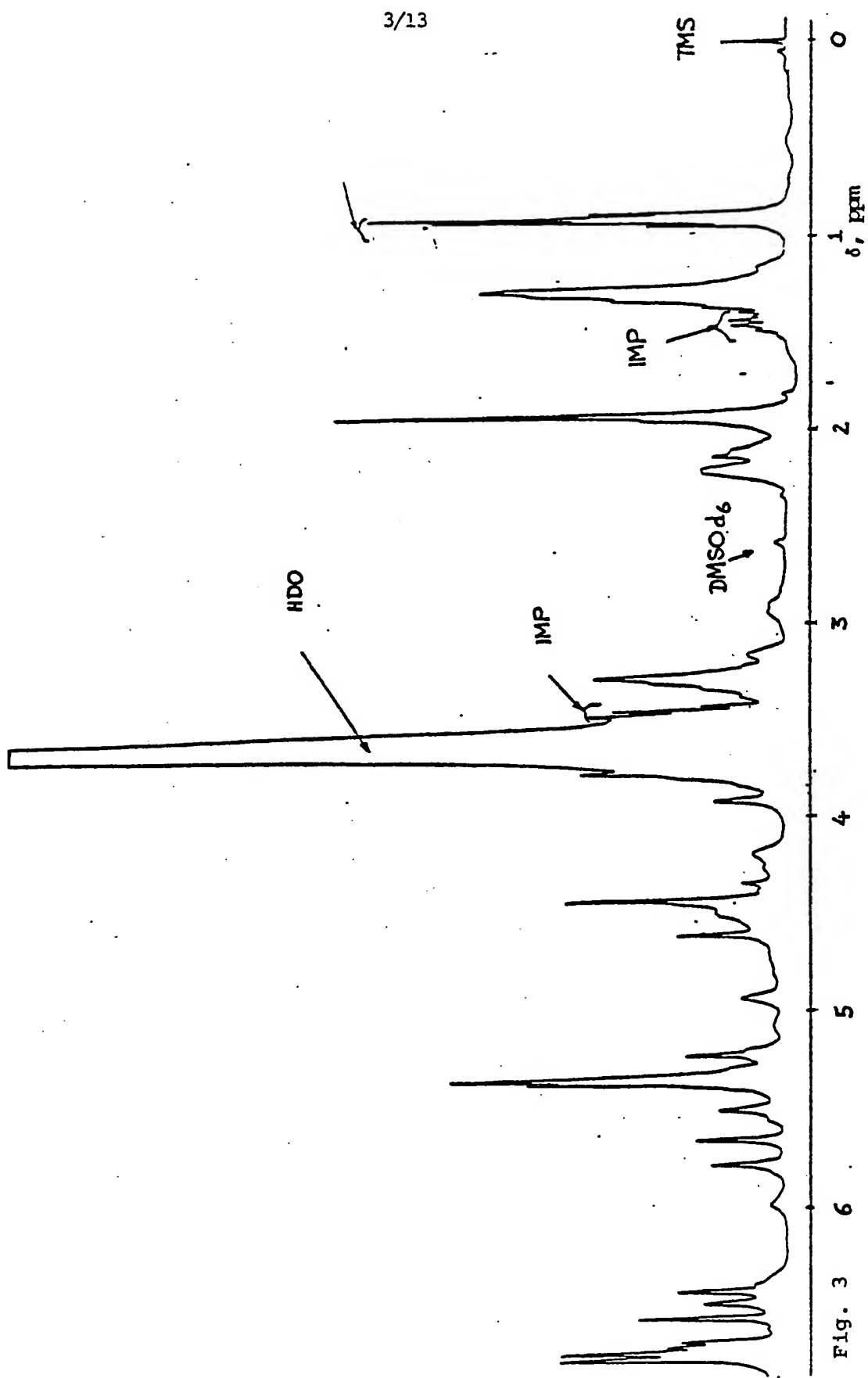


Fig. 2

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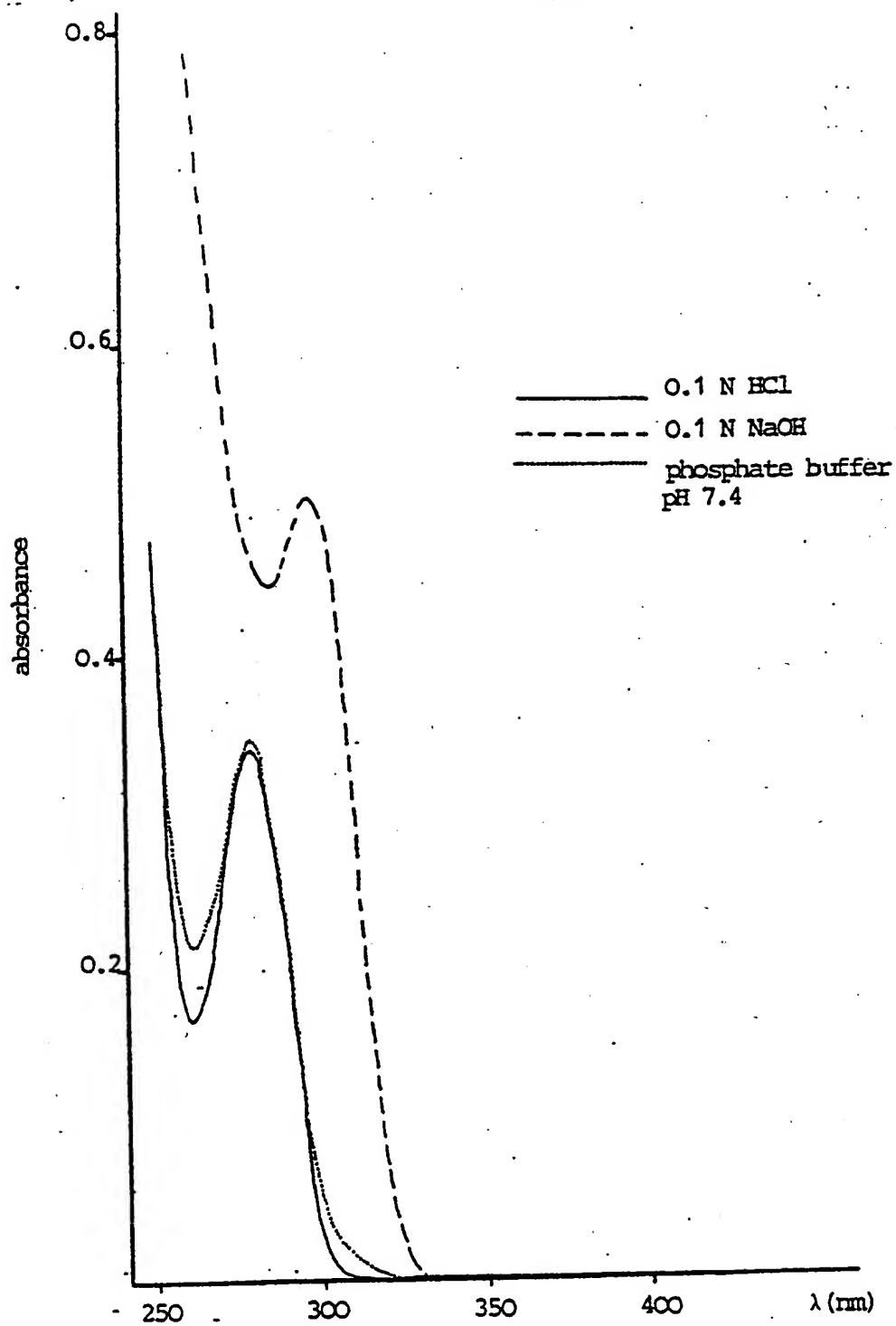


Fig. 4

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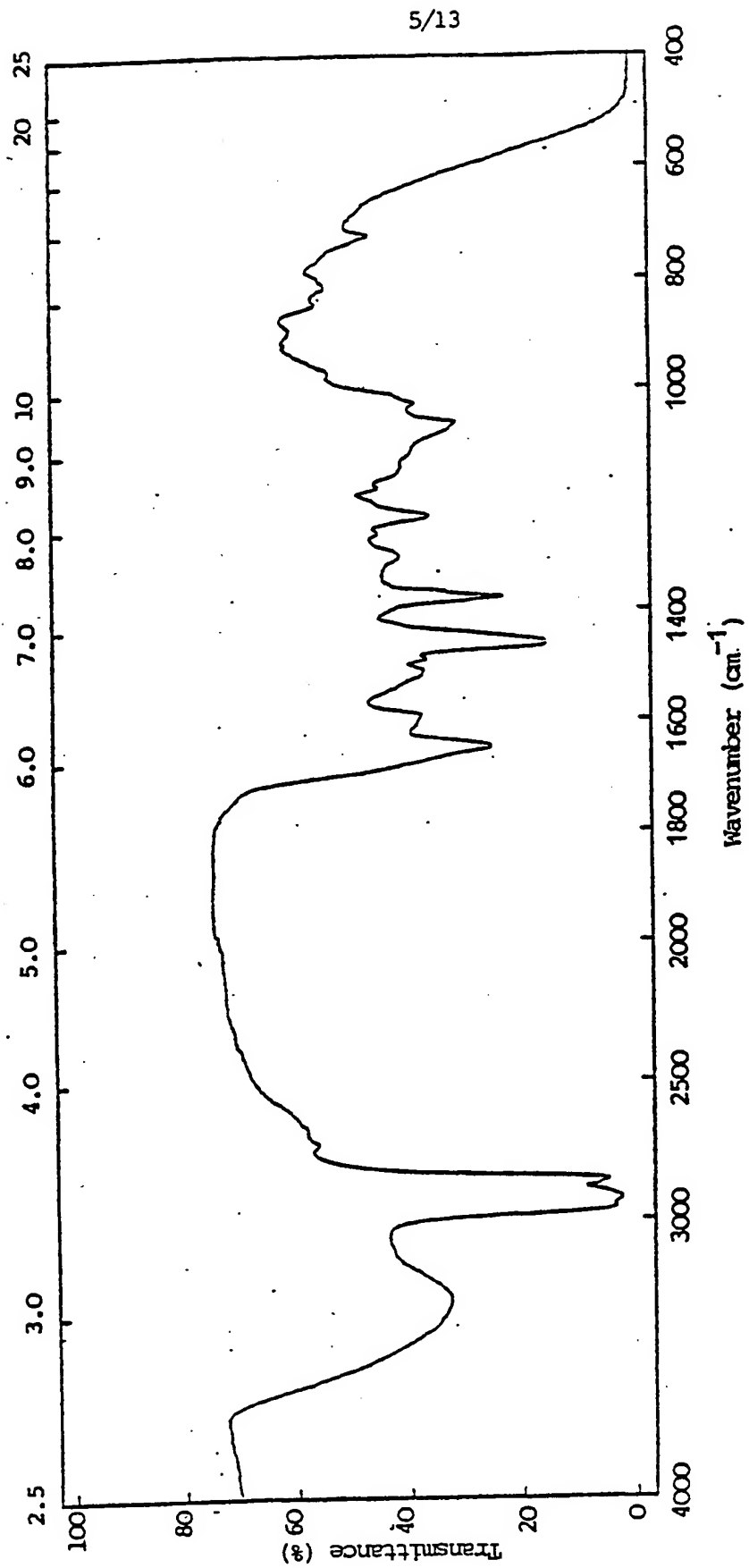


Fig. 5

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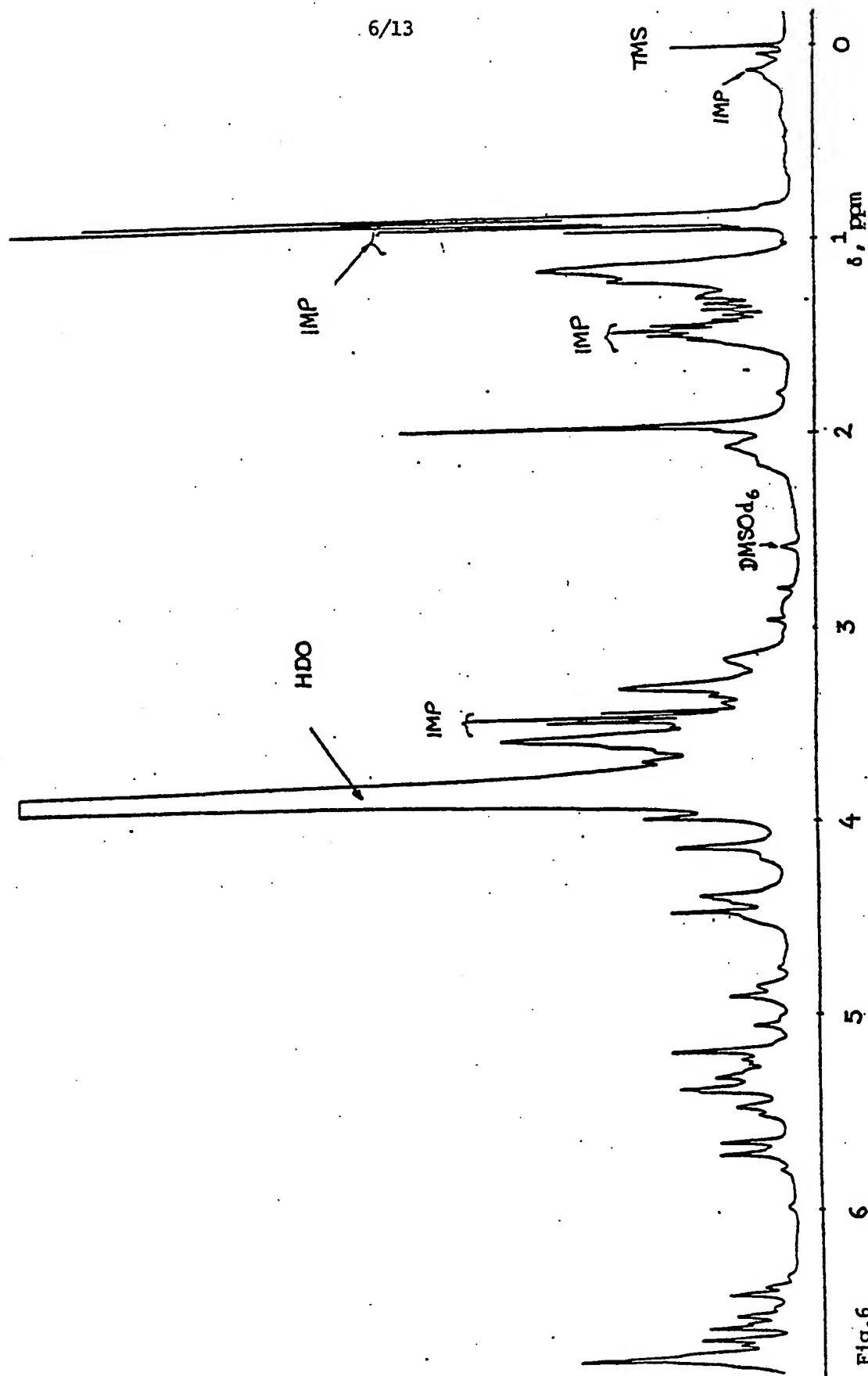


Fig.6

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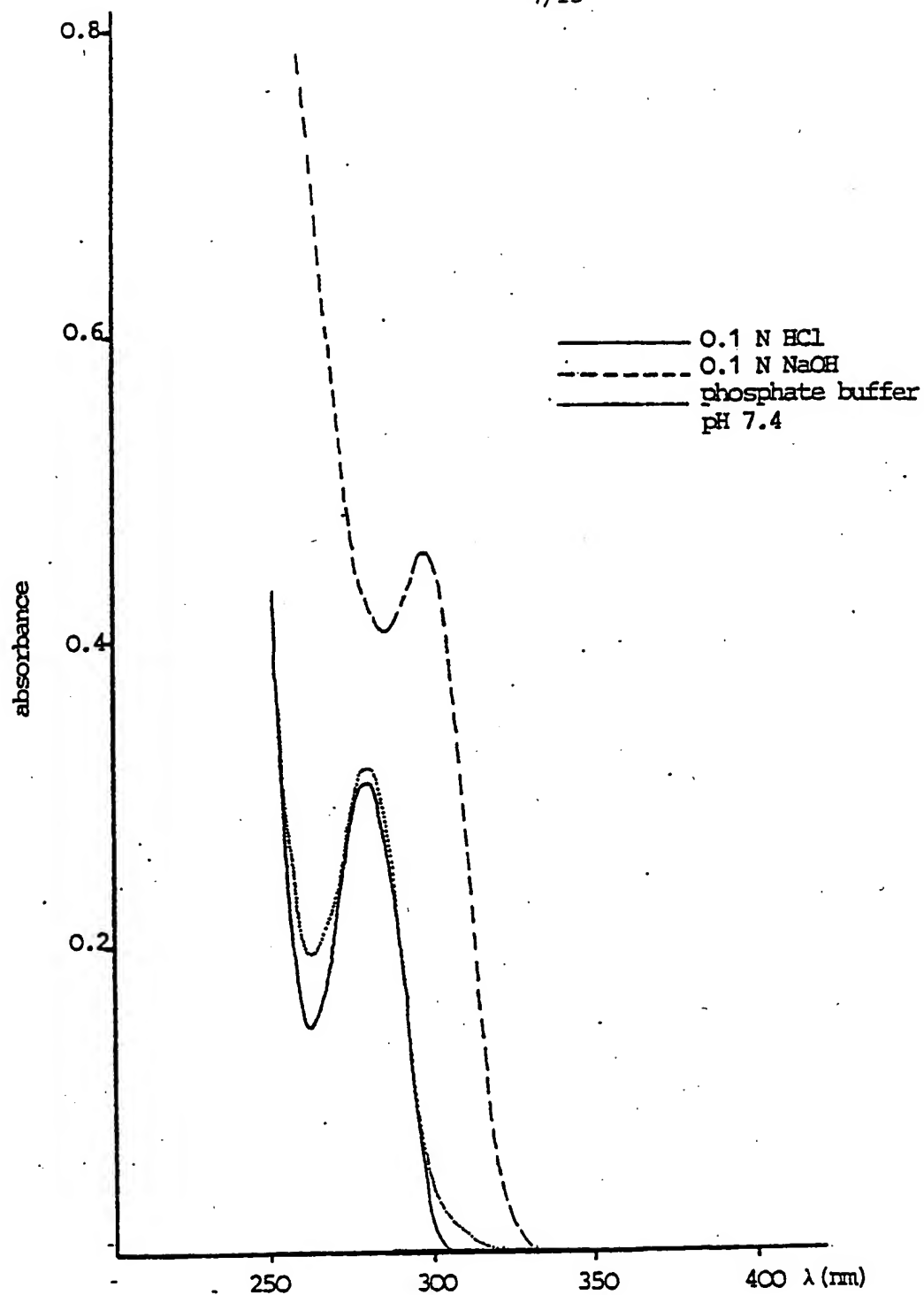


Fig. 7

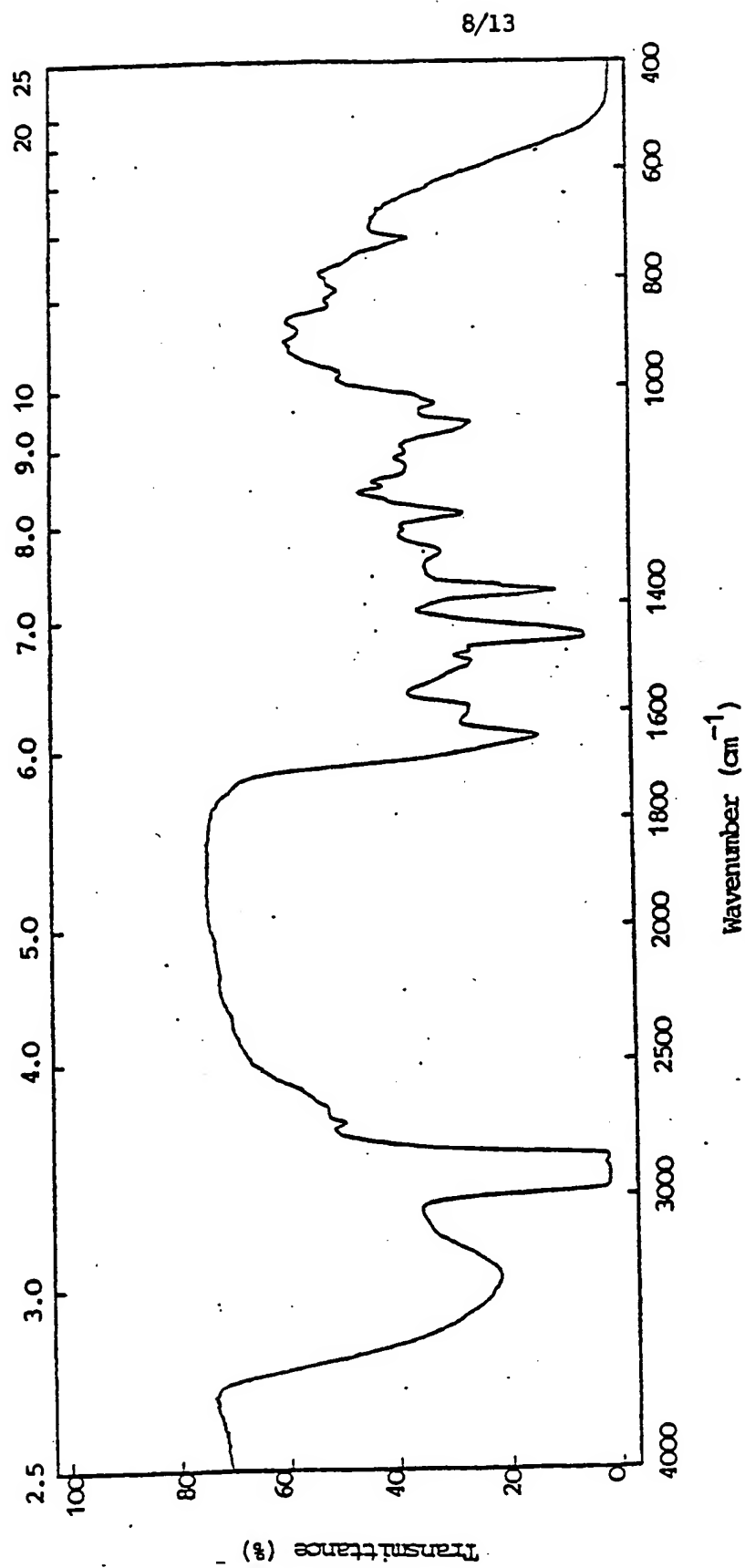


Fig. 8

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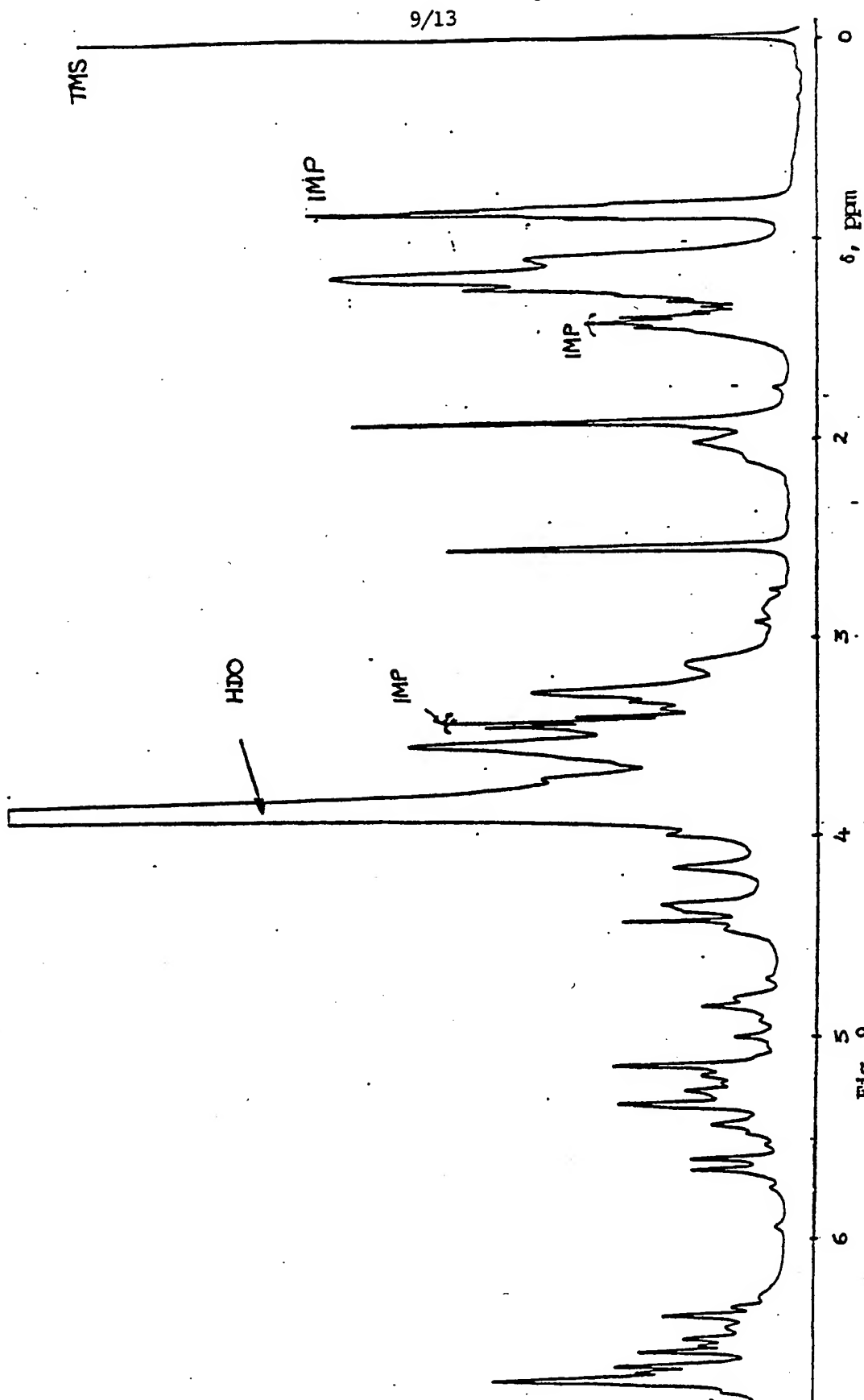


Fig. 9

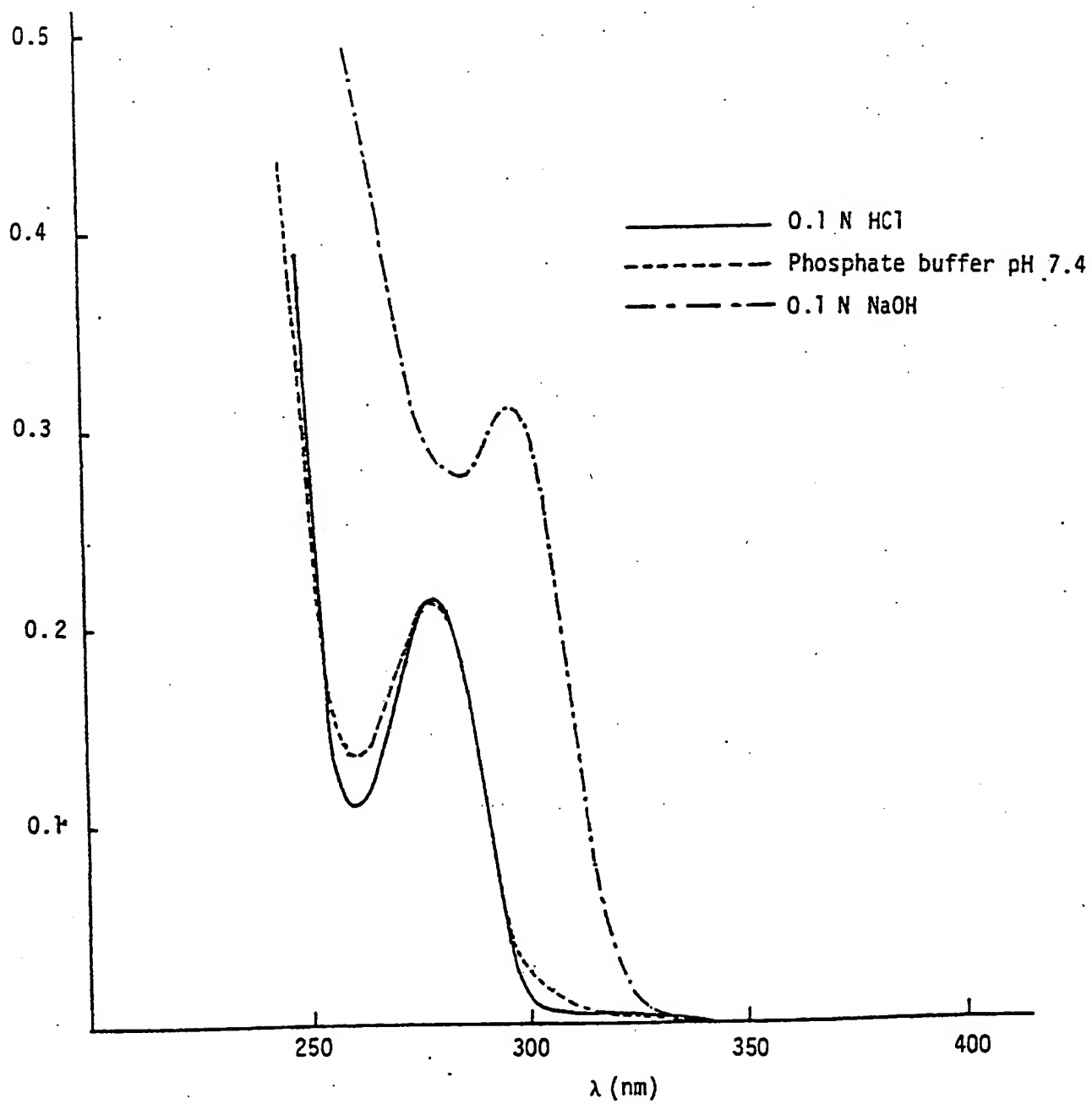


Fig. 10

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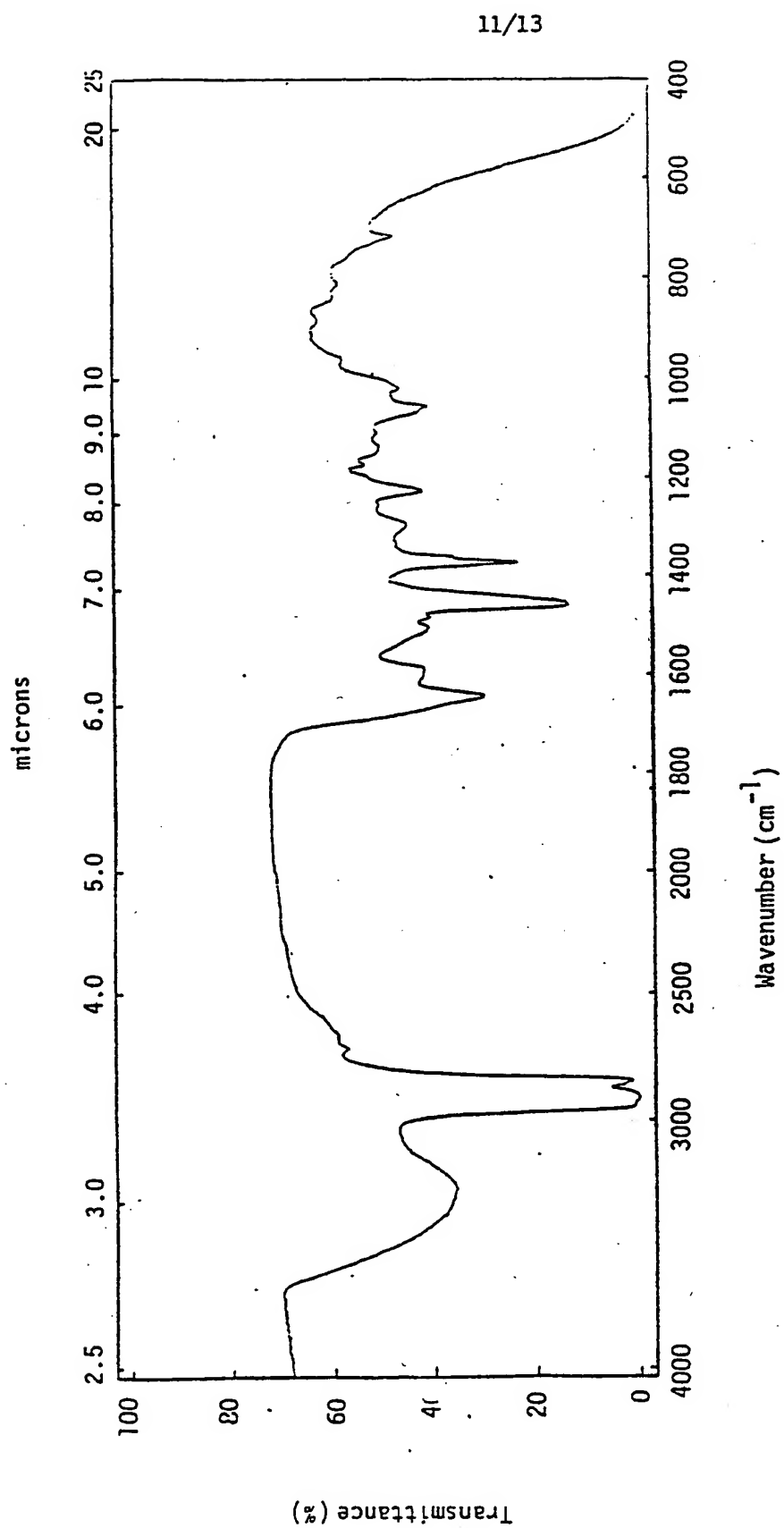


Fig. 11

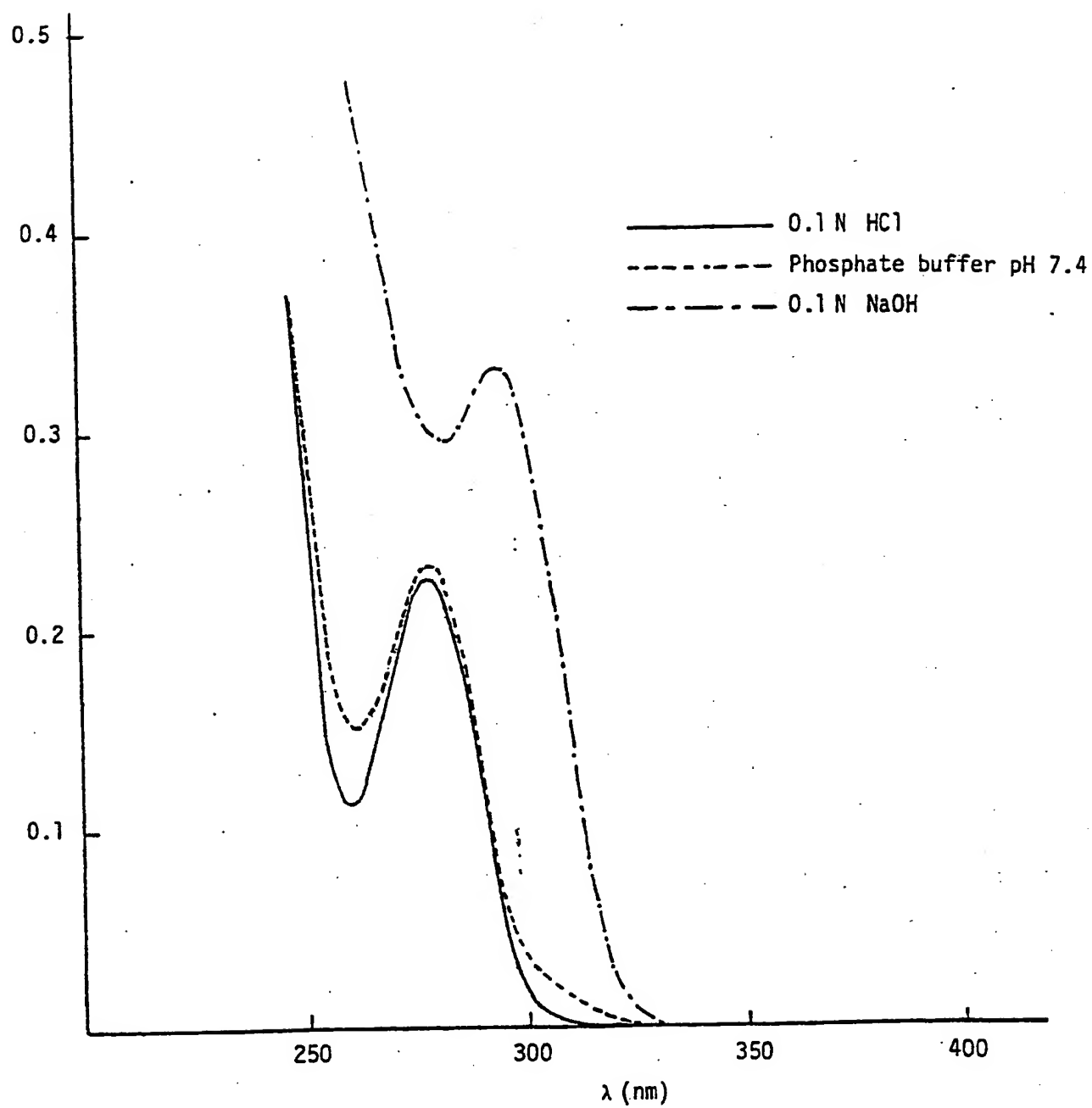


Fig. 12

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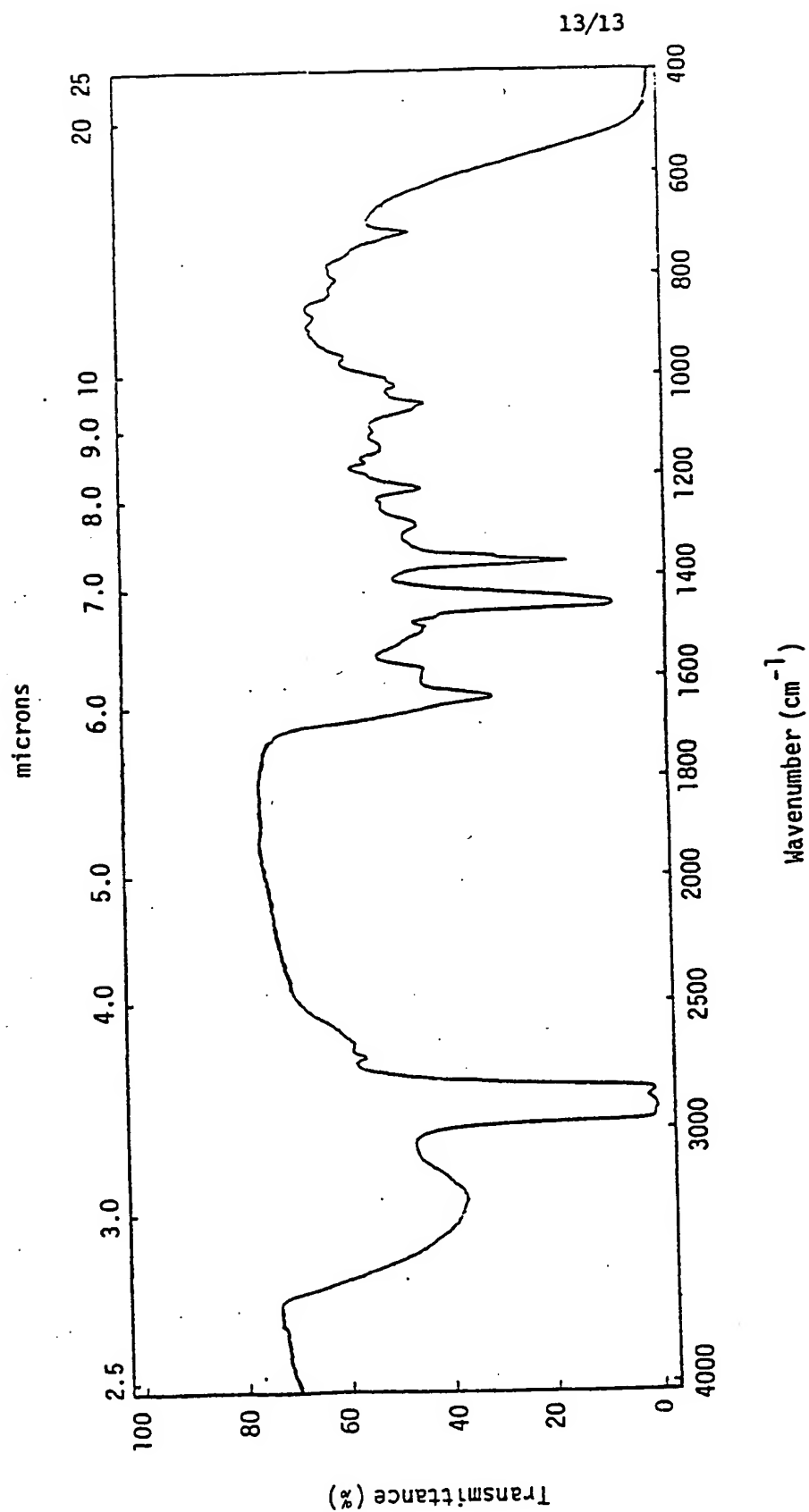


Fig. 13

SPECIFICATION

Teichomycin A₂ pure single factors 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 and method for their production

The present invention refers to an individual antibiotic substance selected from the group consisting of Teichomycin A₂ factor 1, Teichomycin A₂ factor 2, Teichomycin A₂ factor 3, Teichomycin A₂ factor 4 and Teichomycin A₂ factor 5 in substantially pure form, and to the method of producing it. 5

Teichomycin A₂ is one of the several different antibiotic substances obtained by cultivating the strain *Actinoplanes Teichomyceticus nov.sp.* ATCC 31121 in a culture medium containing assimilable sources of carbon, nitrogen and inorganic salts (see Belgian Patent No. 839,259). According to the procedure described in the above cited patent an antibiotic mixture containing Teichomycin A₁, A₂, and A₃ is recovered from the separated fermentation broth by extraction with a suitable organic solvent immiscible with water and precipitation from the extracting solvent according to common procedures. 10 Teichomycin A₂ is then separated from the antibiotic mixture thus obtained by means of column chromatography on Sephadex. Teichomycin A₂, after being further purified by passing through a sulfonated polystyrene resin, is then characterized by a wide series of different chemico-physical parameters including the R_f values in a set of paper and thin layer chromatographic systems where this compound behaved as a true unitary product. 15

It has now been found unexpectedly that Teichomycin A₂ actually comprises a mixture of several co-produced closely related antibiotic materials, the main factors of which have been named Teichomycin A₂ factor 1, Teichomycin A₂ factor 2, Teichomycin A₂ factor 3, Teichomycin A₂ factor 4 and Teichomycin A₂ factor 5. It has also been found that these pure single factors are biologically distinguishable from Teichomycin A₂ complex in that they have a higher degree of antibiotic activity against susceptible microorganisms. 20

The antibiotic substances of the present invention are prepared starting from Teichomycin A₂ which is described in the Belgian patent cited above, by separating the antibiotic complex into the single factors by means of high-efficiency chromatographic methods and recovering the main ones. 25

The terms "Teichomycin A₂", "Teichomycin A₂ complex" or "antibiotic complex" as used in this specification refer to the mixture containing the above five co-produced antibiotic factors obtainable for example by the teaching of Belgian Patent 839,259, which is incorporated herein by reference, and there named Teichomycin A₂.

Separation of the complex into the main pure single factors may be achieved by reversed-phase partition or ion-exchange chromatography. In the former case inactivated silica gel is conveniently used as the column packing and a gradient elution of acetonitrile/aqueous ammonium formate as the developer, while in the latter case a weak gel-type anion exchanger is suitably employed as the stationary phase and aqueous buffers or mixtures of aqueous buffers and non-aqueous solvents as the eluting systems. In particular, optimum separating results have been obtained by passing a solution of Teichomycin A₂ dissolved in a mixture of diluted aqueous ammonium formate and acetonitrile through a silanised silica gel column and developing the column with a gradient elution in the same solvent system. Good results are obtained also by using the diethylaminoethyl derivative of agarose as the stationary phase and carrying out the separation by progressive elution with buffer solutions or mixtures of buffer solutions and non-aqueous water-miscible solvents. 30 35 40

The separation procedure is monitored by HPLC.

Fractions with similar HPLC profile are combined, if desired, further purified by preparative HPLC, and desalted. From these solution the single factors are then recovered by evaporating the organic solvents, stripping off water to a small volume and adding an excess of an organic solvent in which the compounds are not soluble to precipitate the obtained products. 45

The following specific example is provided to illustrate the process of the present invention. Said example however should not be construed to limit the invention to the particular conditions there disclosed.

Separation of Teichomycin A₂ factors 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Ten grams of Teichomycin A₂ complex obtained by the process described in Belgian Patent 839,259 are dissolved in 1 liter of a 0.2% ammonium formate-acetonitrile (9:1) mixture and adjusted at pH 7.5 with 1 N NaOH. This solution is passed through a column containing 500 grams of silanised silica gel 60 (Merck). 50

The column is then eluted with a linear gradient from 10% to 20% acetonitrile in a 0.2% ammonium formate solution in a total volume of 10 liters. 55

Fractions of ~20 ml are collected and checked by means of HPLC.

In following Table I the retention times (t_R) for Teichomycin A₂ factors 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 in a representative HPLC separation are reported (the operative conditions are indicated below the Table):

TABLE I

Teichomycin A ₂ factor	Retention time (minutes)
1	21.2
2	22.6
3	23.3
4	25.8
5	26.4
3,5-dihydroxytoluene (internal standard)	8.84

Column: 5 μ Zorbax ODS (Du Pont)

Mobile Phase: Linear gradient from 0%B to 50%B in A in 40 minutes

A) 25 mM NaH₂PO₄/Acetonitrile (9:1) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH

B) 25 mM NaH₂PO₄/Acetonitrile (3:7) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH

Flow: 2 ml/min.

Detector: U.V. Photometer at 254 nm.

- Fractions with similar HPLC profile are combined and the organic solvent is evaporated under reduced pressure. The aqueous solutions left, are passed through a column containing 10 grams of silanised silica gel (60) (Merck). The column is washed with distilled water in order to eliminate the ammonium formate and then eluted with 50% aqueous acetonitrile.
- The eluate is concentrated to a small volume by adding butanol to facilitate the evaporation of the water and then precipitated with a 1:1 acetone-ethyl ether mixture. Pure Teichomycin A₂ factor 1 (410 mg) and factor 2 (770 mg) are obtained by the above procedure.
- Teichomycin A₂ factor 3 as a 1:1 mixture with Teichomycin A₂ factor 2 is further purified by HPLC on a semipreparative column at the following operating conditions.
- Column: Whatman Partisil ODS M 9 10/50
- Mobile Phase: 0.2% ammonium formate in H₂O/acetonitrile (76:24).
- Flow: 4.5 ml/min.
- Detector: U.V. Photometer at 254 nm,
- Load: 20 mg
- Also in this case purification is monitored by checking each fractions by HPLC.
- Fractions containing pure Teichomycin A₂ factor 2 as well as fractions containing pure Teichomycin A₂ factor 3 are combined, desalted and precipitated as previously described. (Yield: 510 mg of Teichomycin A₂ factor 2 and 520 mg of Teichomycin A₂ factor 3).
- Fractions containing factors 4 and 5 in 1:1 proportion (about 500 mg) obtained from the first column, are combined with another pool of fractions containing a mixture of factors 4 and 5 (about 490 mg) obtained in the same manner from a second parallel separation and are separated by semipreparative HPLC using the same operating conditions seen above for the purification of Teichomycin A₂ factor 3, yielding 350 mg of Teichomycin A₂ factor 4 and 300 mg of Teichomycin A₂ factor 5.
- Chemico-physical characteristics of the pure single factors of Teichomycin A₂.
- Teichomycin A₂ factor 1 is a white amorphous powder that upon heating, begins to darken at about 220°C and is completely decomposed at 255°C, which has the following characteristics:
- a) It is freely soluble in water at pH >7.0 or at pH <2, in dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, and propylene glycol; slightly soluble in methylcellosolve and glycerol; poorly soluble in methanol and ethanol, almost insoluble in chloroform, benzene, n-hexane, acetonitrile, ethyl ether, acetone, ethyl acetate, carbon tetrachloride
- b) has an ultraviolet absorption spectrum, which is given in figure 1 of the accompanying drawings, that exhibits the following absorption maxima:

— in 0.1N hydrochloric acid:

$$\lambda_{\max} 278 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 49.5)$$

— in phosphate buffer pH 7.4:

$$\lambda_{\max} 278 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 50.0)$$

5 — in 0.1N sodium hydroxide:

$$\lambda_{\max} 297 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 72.1)$$

- c) an infrared absorption spectrum in nujol, shown in figure 2 of the accompanying drawings, with the following absorption maxima: 3700—3100, 2960—2840 (nujol), 1645, 1590, 1510, 1460 (nujol), 1375 (nujol), 1305, 1230, 1180, 1155, 1060, 1025, 970, 890, 845, 815, 720 (nujol);
- 10 d) an elemental analysis, after the sample has been previously dried at about 140°C under inert atmosphere (%Δw = 8.5), which indicated the following approximate percentage composition (average): carbon 56.70%; hydrogen, 4.90%; nitrogen 6.65%; chlorine 3.80%; oxygen (by difference), 27.95%
- e) a retention time (t_R) of 21.2 minutes when analyzed by reversed phase HPLC using a 5 μ Zorbax
- 15 ODS column, and eluting with a linear gradient from 0% to 50% solution B in solution A in 40 minutes (solution A: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (9/1) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH; solution B: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (3/7) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH), with a flow rate of 2 ml/min.; (internal standard: 3,5-dihydroxy-toluene t_R 8.84 minutes)
- 20 f) the following groups of signals in the 270 MHz ^1H NMR spectrum (the spectrum is shown in figure 3 of the accompanying drawings) registered in $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ with the addition of a few drops of D_2O (conc. 25 mg/0.5 ml) (TMS as internal standard: $\delta = 0.00$ ppm): 0.8—1.5 (m); 1.7—2.3 (m); 2.7—4.0 (m); 4.0—4.7 (m) 4.8—5.8 (m); 6.2—8.1 (m)
- g) an acidic function capable of forming salts.
- h) a salifiable basic function
- 25 g) a molecular weight of about 1875 as determined by mass spectrometric analysis using fast atom bombardment (FAB) as the ion source (for a presentation of FAB mass spectrometry, see for instance M. Barber et al. Nature, 293, No. 5830, 270—75 (1981)).
- Teichomycin A_2 factor 2 is a white amorphous powder that commences to darken when heated to 210°C and is completely decomposed at 250°C, which has the following characteristics:
- 30 a) It is freely soluble in water at pH >7.0 or at pH <2 in dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide and propylene glycol; slightly soluble in methylcellosolve and glycerol; poorly soluble in methanol and ethanol; almost insoluble in chloroform, benzene, n-hexane, acetonitrile, ethyl ether, acetone, ethyl acetate, carbon tetrachloride
- b) It has an ultraviolet absorption spectrum, which is given in figure 4 of the accompanying
- 35 drawings, that exhibits the following absorption maxima:

— in 0.1N hydrochloric acid:

$$\lambda_{\max} 278 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 48)$$

— in phosphate buffer pH 7.4:

$$\lambda_{\max} 278 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 49.0)$$

40 — in 0.1N sodium hydroxide:

$$\lambda_{\max} 297 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 70.0)$$

- c) an infrared absorption spectrum in nujol, shown in figure 5 of the accompanying drawings, with the following observable absorption maxima: 3700—3100, 2960—2860 (nujol), 1645, 1590, 1510, 1460 (nujol), 1375 (nujol), 1300, 1260, 1230, 1180, 1150, 1060, 1025, 970, 890, 845, 815, 720 (nujol).
- 45 d) an elemental analysis, after the sample has been previously dried at about 140°C under inert atmosphere (%Δw = 9.8), which indicated the following approximate percentage composition (average): carbon, 56.15%; hydrogen, 5.15%; nitrogen 6.30%; chlorine, 3.90%; oxygen (by difference), 28.50%
- e) a retention time (t_R) of 22.6 minutes when analyzed by reversed phase HPLC using a 5 μ Zorbax
- 50 ODS column, and eluting with a linear gradient from 0% to 50% solution B in solution A in 40 minutes (solution A: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (9/1) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH; solution B: 25 mM

$\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4/\text{acet nitrile}$ (3/7) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH), with a flow rate of 2 ml/min.; (internal standard: 3,5-dihydroxytoluene t_R 8.84 minutes)

- f) the following groups of signals in 270 MHz ^1H NMR spectrum (the spectrum is shown in figure 6 of the accompanying drawings) registered in $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ with the addition of a few drops of D_2O (conc. 25 mg/0.5 ml) (TMS as internal standard $\delta = 0.00$ ppm): 0.7—1.5 (m); 1.8—2.2 (m); 2.7—4.5 (m); 4.6—5.7 (m); 6.2—8.1 (m). 5
- g) an acidic function capable of forming salts.
- h) a salifiable basic function
- i) a molecular weight of about 1877 as determined by FAB mass spectrometry.
- 10 Telchomycin A_2 factor 3 is a white amorphous powder that, upon heating begins to decompose at 205°C and is completely decomposed at 250°C, which has the following characteristics: 10
- a) It is freely soluble in water at pH >7.0 or at pH <2, in dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, and propylene glycol; slightly soluble in methylcellosolve and glycerol; poorly soluble in methanol and ethanol; almost insoluble in chloroform, benzene, n-hexane, acetonitrile, ethyl ether, acetone, ethyl acetate, carbon tetrachloride 15
- b) an ultraviolet absorption spectrum, which is given in figure 7 of the accompanying drawings, that exhibits the following absorption maxima: 15
- in 0.1N hydrochloric acid:
- λ_{max} 278 nm ($E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 49.2$)
- 20 — in phosphate buffer pH 7.4: 20
- λ_{max} 278 nm ($E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 50.8$)
- in 0.1N sodium hydroxide:
- λ_{max} 297 nm ($E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 72.7$)
- c) an infrared absorption spectrum in nujol, shown in figure 8 of the accompanying drawings, with 25 the following observable absorption maxima: 3700—3100, 2960—2850 (nujol); 1645, 1590, 1510, 1460 (nujol), 1375 (nujol); 1300, 1230, 1180, 1150, 1120, 1060, 1030, 970, 890, 845, 820, 800, 720 (nujol). 25
- d) an elemental analysis, after the sample has been previously dried at about 140°C under inert atmosphere ($\%\Delta w = 12.0$) which indicated the following approximate percentage composition 30 (average): carbon, 56.26%; hydrogen, 5.20%; nitrogen, 6.69%; chlorine, 3.95%; oxygen (by difference), 27.90%. 30
- e) a retention time (t_R) of 23.3 minutes when analyzed by reversed phase HPLC using a 5 μ Zorbax ODS column and eluting with a linear gradient from 0% to 50% solution B in solution A in 40 minutes (solution A: 25 mM $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4/\text{acetonitrile}$ (9/1) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH; solution B: 25 mM 35 $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4/\text{acetonitrile}$ (3/7) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH), with a flow rate of 2 ml/min; (internal standard: 3,5-dihydroxytoluene t_R 8.84 minutes) 35
- f) the following groups of signals in 270 MHz ^1H NMR spectrum (the spectrum is shown in figure 9 of the accompanying drawings) registered in $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ with the addition of a few drops of D_2O (conc. 25 mg/0.5 ml) (TMS as internal standard $\delta = 0.00$ ppm): 0.7—1.5 (m); 1.8—2.0 (m); 2.7—4.5 (m); 40 4.6—5.7 (m); 6.2—8.0 (m). 40
- g) an acidic function capable of forming salts.
- h) a salifiable basic function
- i) a molecular weight of about 1877 as determined by FAB mass spectrometry.
- 45 Teichomycin A_2 factor 4 is a white amorphous powder that upon heating, begins to darken at about 210°C and is completely decomposed at 250°C, which has the following characteristics: 45
- a) It is freely soluble in water at pH >7.0 or at pH <2, in dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, and propylene glycol; slightly soluble in methylcellosolve and glycerol; poorly soluble in methanol and ethanol, almost insoluble in chloroform, benzene, n-hexane, acetonitrile, ethyl ether, acetone, ethyl acetate, carbon tetrachloride
- 50 b) has an ultraviolet absorption spectrum, which is given in figure 10 of the accompanying drawings, that exhibits the following absorption maxima: 50
- in 0.1N hydrochloric acid:
- λ_{max} 278 nm ($E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 52.5$)
- in phosphate buffer pH 7.4:
- λ_{max} 278 nm ($E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 52.5$)
- 55 — in 0.1N sodium hydroxide: 55
- λ_{max} 297 nm ($E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 72.5$)

c) an infrared absorption spectrum in nujol, shown in figure 11 of the accompanying drawings, with the following absorption maxima: 3700—3100, 2960—2840 (nujol), 1645, 1590, 1510, 1460 (nujol), 1375 (nujol), 1300, 1230, 1175, 1140, 1060, 1025, 970, 890, 840, 815, 720 (nujol);

d) an elemental analysis, after the sample has been previously dried at about 140°C under inert atmosphere (%Δw = 9.8), which indicated the following approximate percentage composition (average): carbon 56.50%; hydrogen, 5.10%; nitrogen 6.50%; chlorine 3.80%; oxygen (by difference), 28.10%

e) a retention time (t_R) of 25.8 minutes when analyzed by reversed phase HPLC using a 5 μ Zorbax ODS column, and eluting with a linear gradient from 0% to 50% solution B in solution A in 40 minutes (solution A: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (9/1) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH; solution B: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (3/7) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH), with a flow rate of 2 ml/min.; (internal standard: 3,5-dihydroxy-toluene t_R 8.84 minutes)

f) an acidic function capable of forming salts

g) a salifiable basic function

h) a molecular weight of about 1891 as determined by FAB mass spectrometry.

Teichomycin A_2 factor 5 is a white amorphous powder that commences to darken when heated to 210°C and is completely decomposed at 250°C, which has the following characteristics:

a) It is freely soluble in water at pH >7.0 or at pH <2 in dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide and propylene glycol; slightly soluble in methylcellosolve and glycerol; poorly soluble in methanol and ethanol; almost insoluble in chloroform, benzene, n-hexane, acetonitrile, ethyl ether, acetone, ethyl acetate, carbon tetrachloride

b) It has an ultraviolet absorption spectrum, which is given in figure 12 of the accompanying drawings, that exhibits the following absorption maxima:

— in 0.1N hydrochloric acid:

λ_{\max} 278 nm ($E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 49.6$)

— in phosphate buffer pH 7.4:

λ_{\max} 278 nm ($E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 51.8$)

— in 0.1N sodium hydroxide:

λ_{\max} 297 nm ($E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 78.8$)

c) an infrared absorption spectrum in nujol, shown in figure 13 of the accompanying drawings, with the following observable absorption maxima: 3700—3100, 2960—2840 (nujol), 1645, 1590, 1510, 1460 (nujol), 1375 (nujol), 1300, 1230, 1175, 1145, 1060, 1025, 970, 890, 840, 815, 720 (nujol).

d) an elemental analysis, after the sample has been previously dried at about 140°C under inert atmosphere (%Δw = 10.1), which indicated the following approximate percentage composition (average): carbon, 56.60%; hydrogen, 5.05%; nitrogen 6.63%; chlorine, 3.85%; oxygen (by difference), 27.87%

e) a retention time (t_R) of 26.4 minutes when analyzed by reversed phase HPLC using a 5 μ Zorbax ODS column, and eluting with a linear gradient from 0% to 50% solution B in solution A in 40 minutes (solution A: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (9/1) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH; solution B: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (3/7) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH), with a flow rate of 2 ml/min.; (internal standard: 3,5-dihydroxy-toluene t_R 8.84 minutes)

f) an acidic function capable of forming salts.

g) a salifiable basic function

h) a molecular weight of about 1891 as determined by FAB mass spectrometry.

Each of Teichomycin A_2 factors 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 contains an acidic function which is capable of forming salts.

The alkali metal, alkaline earth metal, and pharmaceutically acceptable ammonium salts of Teichomycin A_2 factors 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 represent a further specific object of the present invention.

Representative alkali metal and alkaline earth metal salts include sodium, potassium, lithium, calcium, and magnesium salts. The ammonium salts include ammonium and primary, secondary or tertiary (C_1 — C_4)alkylammonium and hydroxy-(C_1 — C_4)alkylammonium salts.

The alkali and alkaline earth metal salts are prepared according to the usual procedures commonly employed for preparing metal salts. As an example, Teichomycin A_2 factor 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 in the free acidic form is dissolved into a suitable solvent such as propylene glycol and about the stoichiometric amount of a suitable selected mineral base is gradually added to the obtained solution.

The alkali or alkaline earth metal salt which forms is then recovered by precipitation with a non-solvent and filtration.

Alternatively these salts can be prepared in a substantially anhydrous form through lyophilization;

in this case aqueous solutions containing the desired salts, resulting from the salification of the free acidic form with a suitably selected alkali or alkaline earth metal carbonate or hydroxide in such a quantity as to obtain a pH between 7 and 8 are filtered from any insoluble and lyophilized.

The organic ammonium salts can be prepared either by adding the properly selected amine to a solution of the free acidic form of Teichomycin A₂ factors 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 in a suitable solvent such as propylene glycol, and then evaporating off the solvent and the excess of the amine reagent or alternatively contacting the two reagents in the minimum amount of water and then precipitating the obtained salts by the addition of a non-solvent. 5

As stated before, each of Teichomycin A₂ factors 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 contains also a basic function capable of being salified. Their pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts, prepared as known *per se* in the art, by contacting the pure single factors with a rather strong acid, preferably with a mineral acid, represent a further specific object of the present invention. 10

Preparation of Teichomycin A₂ factor 2 sodium salt

15 An aqueous solution of Teichomycin A₂ factor 2 (150 mg, 15 ml) is brought to pH 8.0 by the dropwise addition of 0.1N NaOH. The obtained solution is filtered, transferred into the chamber of a freeze-drying system and frozen. After freezing is complete, the chamber is evacuated to 0.1 Torr and ice is sublimated by bringing the heating plate to 0°C. The process continues until the product is almost dry (about 1% moisture). Titration of a solution of Teichomycin A₂ factor 2 sodium salt thus obtained in 20 25 ml methylcellosolve/H₂O 3/1 with 0.1N HCl showed the presence of two titratable functions characterized by the following pK: 7.03 and 4.78. 20

By following the procedure described above but starting from Teichomycin A₂ factors 1, 3, 4 and 5 the corresponding sodium salts are obtained. Determination of the amount of sodium in the end salts confirms the formation of a monosodium salt.

25 The *in vitro* antibacterial activity of Teichomycin A₂ factors 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, which showed to be mainly active against Gram-positive bacteria, was determined against clinical isolates of staphylococci and streptococci using two-fold dilution method in microtiter system. Penassay broth (Difco) and Todd-Hewitt broth (Difco) were used for staphylococci and streptococci respectively. Overnight broth cultures were diluted so that the final inoculum was about 10³ colony forming units/ml. Minimal inhibitory 30 concentration (MIC) was read as the lowest concentration which showed no visible growth after 18—24 h incubation at 37°C. The obtained results are summarized in TABLE II below: 30

TABLE II

Microorganism	No. of tested strains	M.I.C. ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)				
		factor 1	factor 2	factor 3	factor 4	factor 5
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	5	0.8—1.6	0.8—1.6	0.4—0.8	0.2—0.8	0.2—0.8
<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i>	4	0.2—1.6	0.1—1.6	0.2—0.8	0.2—0.8	0.2—0.8
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	7	0.05—0.1	0.025—0.1	0.025—0.05	0.008—0.05	0.006—0.05
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	6	0.1—0.2	0.05—0.1	0.05—0.1	0.05—0.1	0.05—0.1
<i>Streptococcus faecalis</i>	5	0.2—0.4	0.1—0.4	0.1—0.2	0.1—0.4	0.1—0.4
<i>Streptococcus mitis</i>	1	0.025	0.025	0.0125	0.025	0.025
<i>Streptococcus salivarius</i>	1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.05	0.05
<i>Streptococcus sanguis</i>	1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.05	0.05
<i>Streptococcus bovis</i>	1	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4
<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	1	0.1	0.1	0.05	0.1	0.1

The relationship of microbiological potency of the individual factors 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 was determined by the agar diffusion method using *S. aureus* ATCC 6538 as germ test, and Teichomycin A₂ complex as standard.

In particular an adequate amount of Teichomycin A₂ factor 1, Teichomycin A₂ factor 2, Teichomycin A₂ factor 3, Teichomycin A₂ factor 4, Teichomycin A₂ factor 5 and Teichomycin A₂ complex used as the standard is dissolved in dimethylformamide at a concentration of 2000 µg/ml. These solutions are further diluted using phosphate buffer 0.067 M pH 7.4 supplemented with 1% bovine serum in order to provide the following concentrations: 2.5, 5, 10, and 20 µg/ml.

Filter paper discs are then soaked into the sample solutions and placed at regular intervals on the surface of agar plates seeded with a suspension of the test microorganism. The plates are incubated at 37°C for 18 hours and then the diameter of the inhibition zones are measured. The data obtained are fed into a computer to calculate the potency of the individual factors relative to the complex.

The results obtained are reported herein below

	Teichomycin A ₂ factor 1	841 U/mg	
15	Teichomycin A ₂ factor 2	1086 U/mg	15
	Teichomycin A ₂ factor 3	1131 U/mg	
	Teichomycin A ₂ factor 4	1066 U/mg	
	Teichomycin A ₂ factor 5	954 U/mg	
	Teichomycin A ₂ complex	1000 U/mg	

Teichomycin A₂ factors 2, 3, 4 and 5 were also treated in the experimental infections caused by *S. pneumoniae* and by *S. pyogenes* in mice. The experiments were carried out in comparison with Teichomycin A₂ complex. The results obtained are reported in Table III below

TABLE III
In vivo antibacterial activity

Compound	ED ₅₀ (mg/kg/day) s.c.	
	<i>S. pneumoniae</i> L 44	<i>S. pyogenes</i> L 49
Teichomycin A ₂ factor 2	0.28 (0.22—0.34)	0.15 (0.13—0.18)
Teichomycin A ₂ factor 3	0.27 (0.23—0.32)	0.13 (0.11—0.16)
Teichomycin A ₂ factor 4	0.12 (0.09—0.14)	0.098 (0.073—0.11)
Teichomycin A ₂ factor 5	0.13 (0.10—0.15)	0.10 (0.098—0.13)
Teichomycin A ₂ complex	0.35 (0.28—0.44)	0.18 (—)

The approximate acute toxicity in mice (i.p.) for Teichomycin A₂ factors 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 is as shown in Table IV b low:

TABLE IV
Acute toxicity in mice (i.p.)

Compound	Approximate LD ₅₀ (mg/kg)
Teichomycin A ₂ factor 1	>1500<2000
Teichomycin A ₂ factor 2	>1500<2000
Teichomycin A ₂ factor 3	>1000<1500
Teichomycin A ₂ factor 4	>500<1000
Teichomycin A ₂ factor 5	>500<1000

In view of the above, the compounds of the present invention, Teichomycin A₂ factors 1, Teichomycin A₂ factor 2, Teichomycin A₂ factor 3, Teichomycin A₂ factor 4 and Teichomycin A₂ factor 5 can effectively be employed as the active ingredient of antimicrobial preparations used in human and veterinary medicine for the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases caused by pathogenic bacteria which are susceptible to the active ingredients. In such treatments these compounds may be employed as such or used as single individual factors or, considering the similarity of their activity pattern, also in the form of mixtures of two or more of the five factors in any proportion.

The compounds of the present invention can be administered orally, topically or parenterally wherein however parenteral administration is most preferred. Depending on the route of administration, these compounds can be formulated into various dosage forms. Preparations for oral administration may be in the form of capsules, tablets, liquid solutions or suspension. As known in the art the capsules and tablets may contain in addition to the active ingredient, conventional excipients such as diluents, e.g. lactose, calcium phosphate, sorbitol and the like, lubricants, e.g. magnesium stearate, talc, polyethylene glycol, binding agents, e.g. polyvinylpyrrolidone, gelatin, sorbitol, tragacanth, acacia, flavoring agents, and acceptable disintegrating and wetting agents. The liquid preparations generally in the form of aqueous or oily solutions or suspensions, may contain conventional additives such as suspending agents. For topical use the compounds of the present invention may also be prepared in suitable forms for absorption through the skin, the mucous membranes of the nose and throat or the bronchial tissues and may conveniently take the form of liquid sprays or inhalants, lozenges, or throat paints. For medication of the eyes or ears, the preparation may be presented in liquid or semi-liquid form. Topical applications may be formulated in hydrophobic or hydrophilic bases as ointments, creams, lotions, paints, or powders.

Compositions for injection may take such forms as suspensions, solutions, or emulsions in oily or aqueous vehicles, and may contain formulatory agents such as suspending, stabilizing and/or dispersing agents. Alternatively, the active ingredient may be in powder form for reconstitution, at the time of delivery, with a suitable vehicle, such as sterile water.

The amount of active principle to be administered depends on various factors such as the size and condition of the subject to be treated, the route and frequency of administration, and the causative agent involved.

Teichomycin A₂ factors 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are generally effective at a daily dosage comprised between about 0.1 and about 20 mg of active ingredient per Kg of body weight, optionally divided in 2 administrations per day. Particularly desirable compositions are those prepared in the form of dosage units containing from about 50 to about 250 mg per unit.

Representative examples of preparation of pharmaceutical compositions are as follows:

- A parenteral solution is prepared with 100 mg of Teichomycin A₂ factor 2 sodium salt dissolved in 2 ml of sterile water for injection
- A parenteral solution is prepared with 250 mg of Teichomycin A₂ factor 3 sodium salt dissolved in 3 ml of sterile water for injection
- A topical ointment is prepared with 200 mg of Teichomycin A₂ factor 2
- 600 mg of polyethylene glycol 4000 U.S.P.
- 1.2 g of polyethylene glycol 400 U.S.P.

Besides their activity as medicaments, the compounds of the present invention can be used as animal growth promoters.

For this purpose, one or more of the compounds of the invention is administered orally in a suitable feed. The exact concentration employed is that which is required to provide for the active agent in a given amount of feed when normal amounts of feed are consumed.

The addition of the active compounds of the invention to animal feed is preferably accomplished

by preparing an appropriate feed premix containing the active compounds in an effective amount and incorporating the premix into the complete ration.

Alternatively, an intermediate concentrate or feed supplement containing the active ingredient can be blended into the feed.

- 5 The way in which such feed premixes and complete rations can be prepared and administered are described in reference books (such as "Applied Animal Nutrition", W. H. Freedman and Co., S. Francisco, USA, 1969 or "Livestock Feeds and Feeding", O and B Books, Corvallis, Oregon, USA, 1977) and are incorporated herein by reference. 5

CLAIMS

- 10 1. An essentially pure antibiotic compound named Teichomycin A₂ factor 1: a white amorphous powder that upon heating begins to darken at about 220°C and is completely decomposed at 255°C, which 10

- a) is freely soluble in water at pH >7.0 or at pH <2, in dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, and propylene glycol; slightly soluble in methylcellosolve and glycerol; poorly soluble in methanol and ethanol, almost insoluble in chloroform, benzene, n-hexane, acetonitrile, ethyl ether, acetone, ethyl acetate, carbon tetrachloride; 15

- b) has an ultraviolet absorption spectrum that exhibits the following absorption maxima:
— in 0.1N hydrochloric acid:

$$\lambda_{\max} 278 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 49.5)$$

- 20 — in phosphate buffer pH 7.4: 20

$$\lambda_{\max} 278 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 50.0)$$

- in 0.1N sodium hydroxide:

$$\lambda_{\max} 297 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 72.1);$$

- c) an infrared absorption spectrum in nujol with the following absorption maxima: 3700—3100, 25 2960—2840 (nujol), 1645, 1590, 1510, 1460 (nujol), 1375 (nujol), 1305, 1230, 1180, 1155, 1060, 1025, 970, 890, 845, 815, 720 (nujol); 25

- d) an elemental analysis, after the sample has been previously dried at about 140°C under inert atmosphere (%Δw = 8.5), which indicated the following approximate percentage composition (average): carbon 56.70%; hydrogen, 4.90%; nitrogen 6.65%; chlorine 3.80%; oxygen (by difference), 30 27.95%;

- e) a retention time (t_R) of 21.2 minutes when analyzed by reversed phase HPLC using a 5 μ Zorbax ODS column, and eluting with a linear gradient from 0% to 50% solution B in solution A in 40 minutes (solution A: 25 mM NaH₂PO₄/acetonitrile (9/1) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH; solution B: 25 mM NaH₂PO₄/acetonitrile (3/7) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH), with a flow rate of 2 ml/min.; (internal 35 standard: 3,5-dihydroxy-toluene t_R 8.84 minutes);

- f) the following groups of signals in the 270 MHz ¹H NMR spectrum registered in DMSO-d₆ with the addition of a few drops of D₂O (conc. 25 mg/0.5 ml) (TMS as internal standard: δ = 0.00 ppm): 0.8—1.5 (m); 1.7—2.3 (m); 2.7—4.0 (m); 4.0—4.7 (m) 4.8—5.8 (m); 6.2—8.1 (m);

- g) an acidic function capable of forming salts;

- h) a salifiable basic function; and

- i) a molecular weight of about 1875 as determined by FAB mass spectrometry. 40
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. An essentially pure antibiotic compound named Teichomycin A₂ factor 2: a white amorphous powder that commences to darken when heated to 210°C and is completely decomposed at 250°C, 45 which 45

- a) is freely soluble in water at pH >7.0 or at pH <2 in dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide and propylene glycol; slightly soluble in methylcellosolve and glycerol; poorly soluble in methanol and ethanol; almost insoluble in chloroform, benzene, n-hexane, acetonitrile, ethyl ether, acetone, ethyl acetate, carbon tetrachloride;

- b) has an ultraviolet absorption spectrum that exhibits the following absorption maxima: 50
— in 0.1N hydrochloric acid:

$$\lambda_{\max} 278 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 48)$$

- in phosphate buffer pH 7.4:

$$\lambda_{\max} 278 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 49.0)$$

- 55 — in 0.1N sodium hydroxide: 55

$$\lambda_{\max} 297 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 70.0);$$

- c) an infrared absorption spectrum in nujol with the following observable absorption maxima:
3700—3100, 2960—2860 (nujol), 1645, 1590, 1510, 1460 (nujol), 1375 (nujol), 1300, 1260, 1230, 1180, 1150, 1060, 1025, 970, 890, 845, 815, 720 (nujol);
- 5 d) an elemental analysis, after the sample has been previously dried at about 140°C under inert atmosphere (%Δw = 9.8), which indicated the following approximate percentage composition (average): carbon, 56.15%; hydrogen, 5.15%; nitrogen 6.30%; chlorine, 3.90%; oxygen (by difference), 28.50%; 5
- e) a retention time (t_R) of 22.6 minutes when analyzed by reversed phase HPLC using a 5 μ Zorbax ODS column, and eluting with a linear gradient from 0% to 50% solution B in solution A in 40 minutes 10
(solution A: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (9/1) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH; solution B: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (3/7) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH), with a flow rate of 2 ml/min.; (internal standard: 3,5-dihydroxy-toluene t_R 8.84 minutes);
- 15 f) the following groups of signals in 270 MHz ^1H NMR spectrum registered in $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ with the addition of a few drops of D_2O (conc. 25 mg/0.5 ml) (TMS as internal standard $\delta = 0.00$ ppm): 0.7—1.5 (m); 1.8—2.2 (m); 2.7—4.5 (m); 4.6—5.7 (m); 6.2—8.1 (m); 15
- g) an acidic function capable of forming salts;
h) a salifiable basic function; and
i) a molecular weight of about 1877 as determined by FAB mass spectrometry.
- or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 20 3. An essentially pure antibiotic compound named Teichomycin A_2 factor 3: a white amorphous powder that, upon heating, begins to decompose at 205°C and is completely decomposed at 250°C, which 20
- a) is freely soluble in water at pH >7.0 or a pH <2, in dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, and propylene glycol; slightly soluble in methylcellosolve and glycerol; poorly soluble in methanol and 25
ethanol; almost insoluble in chloroform, benzene, n-hexane, acetonitrile, ethyl ether, acetone, ethyl acetate, carbon tetrachloride 25
- b) an ultraviolet absorption spectrum that exhibits the following absorption maxima:
— in 0.1N hydrochloric acid:
- λ_{max} 278 nm ($E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 49.2$)
- 30 — in phosphate buffer pH 7.4: 30
- λ_{max} 278 nm ($E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 50.8$)
- in 0.1N sodium hydroxide:
- λ_{max} 297 nm ($E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 72.7$)
- c) an infrared absorption spectrum in nujol with the following observable absorption maxima: 35
3700—3100, 2960—2850 (nujol); 1645, 1590, 1510, 1460 (nujol), 1375 (nujol); 1300, 1230, 1180, 1150, 1120, 1060, 1030, 970, 890, 845, 820, 800, 720 (nujol); 35
- d) an elemental analysis, after the sample has been previously dried at about 140°C under inert atmosphere (%Δw = 12.0) which indicated the following approximate percentage composition (average): carbon, 56.26%; hydrogen, 5.20%; nitrogen, 6.69%; chlorine, 3.95%; oxygen (by difference), 40
27.90%; 40
- e) a retention time (t_R) of 23.3 minutes when analyzed by reversed phase HPLC using a 5 μ Zorbax ODS column and eluting with a linear gradient from 0% to 50% solution B in solution A in 40 minutes 45
(solution A: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (9/1) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH; solution B: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (3/7) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH), with a flow rate of 2 ml/min.; (internal standard: 3,5-dihydroxy-toluene t_R 8.84 minutes); 45
- f) the following groups of signals in 270 MHz ^1H NMR spectrum registered in $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ with the addition of a few drops of D_2O (conc. 25 mg/0.5 ml) (TMS as internal standard $\delta = 0.00$ ppm): 0.7—1.5 (m); 1.8—2.0 (m); 2.7—4.5 (m); 4.6—5.7 (m); 6.2—8.0 (m);
- 50 g) an acidic function capable of forming salts; 50
h) a salifiable basic function; and
i) a molecular weight of about 1877 as determined by FAB mass spectrometry.
- or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
4. An essentially pure antibiotic compound named Teichomycin A_2 factor 4: a white amorphous powder that upon heating, begins to darken at about 210°C and is completely decomposed at 250°C, 55
which 55
- a) is freely soluble in water at pH >7.0 or at pH <2, in dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, and propylene glycol; slightly soluble in methylcellosolve and glycerol; poorly soluble in methanol and ethanol, almost insoluble in chloroform, benzene, n-hexane, acetonitrile, ethyl ether, acetone, ethyl acetate, carbon tetrachloride

b) has an ultraviolet absorption spectrum that exhibits the following absorption maxima:
— in 0.1N hydr chloric acid:

$$\lambda_{\max} 278 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 52.5)$$

— in phosphate buffer pH 7.4:

5 $\lambda_{\max} 278 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 52.5)$

5

— in 0.1N sodium hydroxide:

$$\lambda_{\max} 297 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 72.5)$$

c) an infrared absorption spectrum in nujol with the following absorption maxima: 3700—3100, 2960—2840 (nujol), 1645, 1590, 1510, 1460 (nujol), 1375 (nujol), 1300, 1230, 1175, 1140, 1060, 1025, 970, 890, 840, 815, 720 (nujol);

10 d) an elemental analysis, after the sample has been previously dried at about 140°C under inert atmosphere (%Δw = 9.8), which indicated the following approximate percentage composition (average): carbon 56.50%; hydrogen, 5.10%; nitrogen 6.50%; chlorine 3.80%; oxygen (by difference), 28.10%

10

15 e) a retention time (t_R) of 25.8 minutes when analyzed by reversed phase HPLC using a 5 μ Zorbax ODS column, and eluting with a linear gradient from 0% to 50% solution B in solution A in 40 minutes (solution A: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (9/1) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH; solution B: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (3/7) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH), with a flow rate of 2 ml/min.; (internal standard: 3,5-dihydroxy-toluene t_R 8.84 minutes)

15

20 f) an acidic function capable of forming salts;

20

g) a salifiable basic function; and

h) a molecular weight of about 1891 as determined by FAB mass spectrometry.
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25 5. An essentially pure antibiotic compound named Teichomycin A_2 factor 5: a white amorphous powder that commences to darken when heated to 210°C and is completely decomposed at 250°C, which

25

a) is freely soluble in water at pH >7.0 or at pH <2 in dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide and propylene glycol; slightly soluble in methylcellosolve and glycerol; poorly soluble in methanol and ethanol; almost insoluble in chloroform, benzene, n-hexane, acetonitrile, ethyl ether, acetone, ethyl

30 acetate, carbon tetrachloride;

30

b) has an ultraviolet absorption spectrum that exhibits the following absorption maxima:
— in 0.1N hydrochloric acid:

$$\lambda_{\max} 278 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 49.6)$$

— in phosphate buffer pH 7.4:

35 $\lambda_{\max} 278 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 51.8)$

35

— in 0.1N sodium hydroxide:

$$\lambda_{\max} 297 \text{ nm } (E_{1\text{cm}}^{1\%} = 78.8)$$

c) an infrared absorption spectrum in nujol with the following observable absorption maxima: 3700—3100, 2960—2840 (nujol), 1645, 1590, 1510, 1460 (nujol), 1375 (nujol), 1300, 1230, 1175, 1145, 1060, 1025, 970, 890, 840, 815, 720 (nujol);

40

d) an elemental analysis, after the sample has been previously dried at about 140°C under inert atmosphere (%Δw = 10.1), which indicated the following approximate percentage composition (average): carbon, 56.60%; hydrogen, 5.05%; nitrogen 6.63%; chlorine, 3.85%; oxygen (by difference), 27.87%;

45 e) a retention time (t_R) of 26.4 minutes when analyzed by reversed phase HPLC using a 5 μ Zorbax ODS column, and eluting with a linear gradient from 0% to 50% solution B in solution A in 40 minutes (solution A: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (9/1) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH; solution B: 25 mM NaH_2PO_4 /acetonitrile (3/7) buffered at pH 6.0 with 0.1N NaOH), with a flow rate of 2 ml/min.; (internal standard: 3,5-dihydroxy-toluene t_R 8.84 minutes);

45

50 f) an acidic function capable of forming salts;

50

g) a salifiable basic function; and

h) a molecular weight of about 1891 as determined by FAB mass spectrometry.
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. An alkali metal, alkaline earth metal or pharmaceutically acceptable ammonium salt of any of the compounds of claims 1 to 3.
7. A composition comprising a mixture of two or more of the compounds or salts according to any preceding claim.
- 5 8. A compound or composition according to any preceding claim, for anti-bacterial use. 5
9. A method of producing a compound or salt according to any preceding claim, comprising separating Teichomycin A₂ into the single factors by reverse-phase partition or ion-exchange chromatography and, if desired, converting the compounds thus obtained into the corresponding pharmaceutically acceptable salts.
- 10 10. A method according to claim 9, wherein separation is achieved by column chromatography using a silanised silica gel column and a gradient elution of acetonitrile in diluted aqueous ammonium formate as the developer. 10
11. A method according to claim 9, wherein the column is developed in a linear gradient using from 10 to 20% acetonitrile in a 0.2% ammonium formate solution.
- 15 12. A method according to any of claims 7 to 9, wherein, when a mixture of factors is recovered from the column, it is separated into the single factors by reverse-phase column chromatography using an octadecylsilane column and a 24:76 mixture of acetonitrile:0.2% aqueous ammonium formate as the developer. 15
13. A method according to claim 11, for producing the compound of claim 2, which comprises dissolving Teichomycin A₂ complex in a 0.2% ammonium formate/acetonitrile 9/1 mixture, adjusting the pH to about 7.5 by the addition of NaOH, passing the obtained solution through the column, developing the column, collecting the fractions which have the HPLC profile characteristic of Teichomycin A₂ factor 2, evaporating off the organic solvent under reduced pressure, desalting the aqueous solution left by passing it through a silanised silica gel column, washing the column with water, eluting it with 50% aqueous acetonitrile, concentrating the eluate to a small volume and precipitating essentially pure Teichomycin A₂ factor 2 therefrom by the addition of a non-solvent. 20 25
14. A method according to claim 9, wherein separation is achieved by column chromatography using the diethylaminoethyl derivative of agarose as the stationary phase and buffer solutions or mixtures of buffer solutions and non-aqueous water-miscible solvents as the eluents.